

Message Text

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16

ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SY-05 USSS-00 EUR-12 AID-05 /085 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:GDKULICK:SEH

APPROVED BY AF/E:WBCOOTE

IO/UNP:MR.HAGER

----- 085298

R 032228Z SEP 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 209447

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PINT ET

SUBJECT: RUMORED THREAT TO ROYAL FAMILY

REF: USUN 3936

1. ZEWDE GABRE-SELASSIE, NOW RESIDENT SCHOLAR AT SMITHSONIAN/WOODROW WILSON CENTER, CALLED ETHIOPIAN DESKOFF TO REPORT THAT HE HAD RECEIVED ANONYMOUS LETTER FROM FRANKFURT WARNING THAT THE DIRG INTENDED TO EXECUTE HAILE SELASSIE AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL FAMILY "INCLUDING INFANTS UNDER THE AGE OF TWO". THE LETTER STATED THAT EXECUTION WOULD BE CARRIED OUT EITHER ON SEPTEMBER 2 OR SEPTEMBER 12, PRESUMABLY IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE EMPEROR'S OVERTHROW. ZEWDE IMPLIED THAT HE THOUGHT EMPEROR'S DEATH FOUR DAYS AFTER LETTER WAS WRITTEN WAS NO COINCIDENCE. SIMILAR LETTER WAS RECENTLY RECEIVED BY FORMER US AMBASSADOR TO ETHIOPIA, JOSEPH SIMONSON, AND WAS NO DOUBT SENT TO OTHERS.

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2. DESKOFF TOLD ZEWDE THAT USG HAD NO INFORMATION TO CORROBORATE THIS REPORT BUT THAT LETTER WOULD BE BROUGHT TO OUR EMBASSY'S ATTENTION. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY BEING ALERT TO SIMILAR REPORTS IN ADDIS. SHOULD REPORT APPEAR TO HAVE ANY SUBSTANCE, EMBASSY SHOULD AT ITS DISCRETION MAKE KNOWN TO

PMAC AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL THAT SUCH ACT COULD HAVE GRAVE CONSEQUENCES FOR US/ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS, IN VIEW OF REPEATED ASSURANCES THAT NO FURTHER EXECUTIONS WOULD BE CARRIED OUT WITHOUT FULL AND FAIR TRIALS. ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: THREATS, DEATHS, PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: woolflhd
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE209447
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GDKULICK:SEH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750305-0548
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750987/aaaacyya.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 USUN NEW YORK 3936
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: woolflhd
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUN 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <18 DEC 2003 by woolflhd>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RUMORED THREAT TO ROYAL FAMILY
TAGS: PINT, ET, (GABRE SALASSIE, ZEWDE)
To: ADDIS ABABA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006